



Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

**Communicable Diseases/Epidemiology
Influenza Weekly Report
Arkansas 2013-2014**

Week Ending Saturday 01/11/2014

Dirk Haselow, MD, PhD

State Epidemiologist, Medical Director, Communicable Diseases

Shirley Louie, MS, CIH

Deputy State Epidemiologist, Branch Chief, Applied Epidemiology

Prepared by:

Haytham Safi, MD, MPH

Influenza Surveillance Coordinator

Haytham.Safi@Arkansas.gov

501-661-2920

Kim R. Sutphin, MPH, MBA, PHP Epidemiologist

David Holcomb, MS, PHP Epidemiologist

During flu season the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) produces this Weekly Influenza Report for clinicians. The report provides information on flu activity in the state. The report also compares influenza-like illness (ILI) in Arkansas to activity in the US. ADH receives detailed reports of only a small fraction of flu cases. Therefore, it is important to understand that the information in the weekly update is representative of the timing and location of activity, but it does not reflect the overall burden of disease. It is presumed that there are many more people actually affected than the report shows.

Report Summary:

- Since September 29, 2013 (week 40), over 5,400 positive influenza antigen tests have been reported to Arkansas Department of Health by healthcare providers, over 1,400 reported in the last week alone. Due to the large volume of antigen reports and delays in data entry, this week's antigen reports are provisional and underestimate the actual number of reports.
- Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between A and B strains, 94.6% were A and 5.4% were B.
- All counties in Arkansas are reporting influenza cases.
- The highest rates are among young and middle-aged adults.
- 216 samples have been confirmed and subtyped by PCR testing.
- All type A influenza isolates have been subtyped as 2009 H1N1. Four isolates were positive for influenza B.
- Nine flu deaths were reported this week, for a total of 19 deaths at this point in time this flu season.
- Over 13% of outpatients visits last week were for influenza-like illness (ILI). This is nearly double the highest rate seen last year which was one of the worst years on record.
- Over 14% of patients visiting emergency rooms last week were there for ILI.
- The average school absenteeism rate last week was 6.53%.
- Nationwide, 35 states are reporting widespread flu activity, 12 states are reporting regional activity

For Additional National and International Influenza Surveillance Information:

Google Flu Trends: Google Flu Trends uses aggregated Google search data in a model created in collaboration with CDC to estimate influenza activity in the United States. For more information and activity estimates from the U.S. and worldwide, <http://www.google.org/flutrends/us/#US>.

World Health Organization FluNet: Additional influenza surveillance information from participating WHO member nations is available at http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/flunet/en/index.html.

CDC - Seasonal Influenza (Flu) - WeeklyReport: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> and flu activity surveillance: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm>

Flu near you: <https://flunearyou.org/>. Please sign up and forward to your staff!

2013-2014 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 2: 01/05/14 - 01/11/14)

Death Report for Week 02

- Deaths from all causes:
- Deaths due to Pneumonia:
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 3
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 6

Cumulative Flu Deaths since 9/29/2013

- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 5
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 14
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 19

ER Visits*

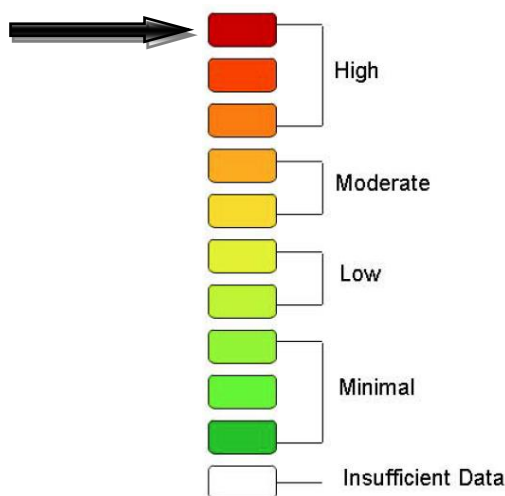
- **Week Ending: 1/11/2014**
Weighted Average: 14.4% (53 Hospitals)
– Total Visits: 18,869
– Visits with ILI: 2,720
- **Previous Week**
Weighted Average: 13.2% (55 Hospitals)
– Total Visits: 20,845
– Visits with ILI: 2758

*% is the number of ILI visits*100/Total Visits

Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- **PCR Confirmed:**
– Cumulative: 131
– Week ending 1/11/2014: 36
- **ILI or Antigen Tested (Provisional):**
– Cumulative: 469
– Week ending 1/11/2014: 127

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers



PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

- Total Cases since 09/29/2013: 216
- Week Ending 1/11/2014: 57

PCR Tests	ADH Lab Week02	Other Labs Week02	Cumulative Cases Since 9/29/2013
A+	0	7	42
B+	0	1	4
H1N1+	4	49	169
H3+	0	0	0
Unsubtypable	0	0	1
Total	4	57	216
Negative	1	--	

PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 09/29/2013

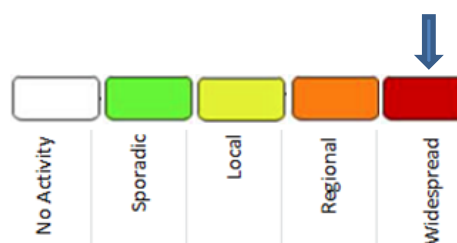
Age Groups	PCR+	Hospitalized	Deaths
0-4 yr	35	17	1
5-18 yr	21	6	0
19-24 yr	13	8	0
25-49 yr	52	38	1
50-64 yr	67	43	3
> 65 yr	28	19	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total	216	131	5

School Absenteeism*

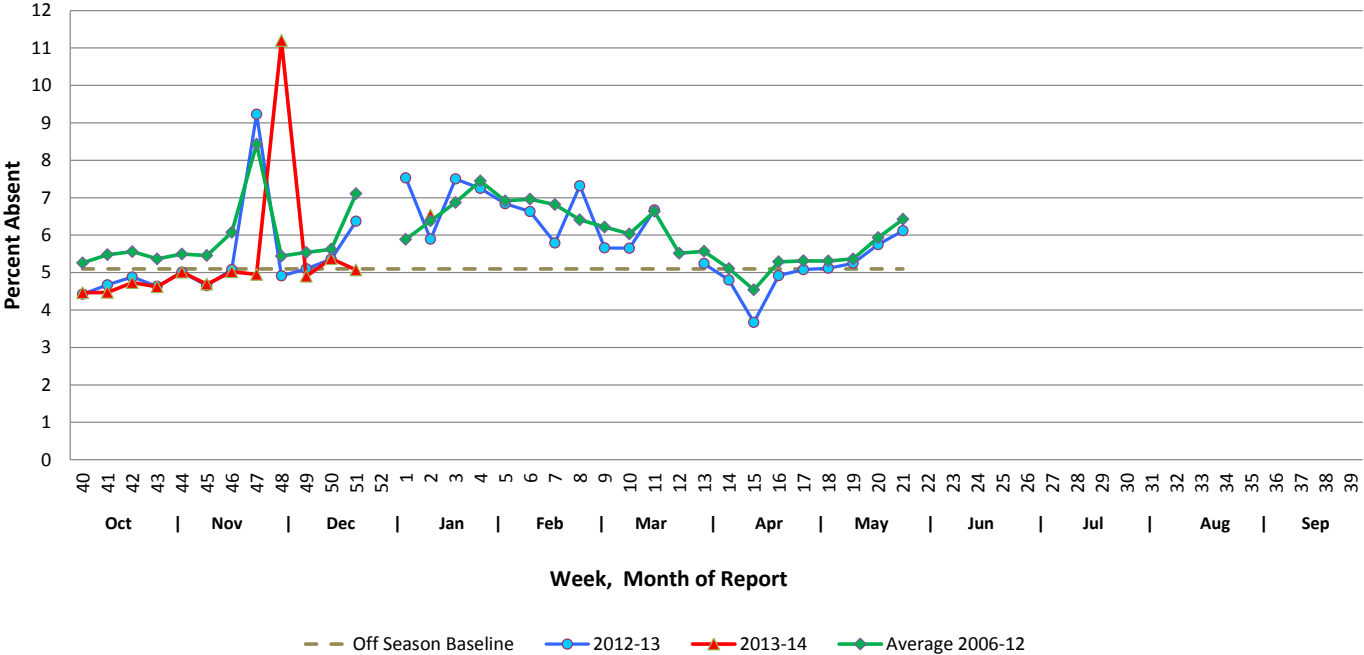
- Week Ending: 1/11/2014
– Percent Absent: 6.53
- Previous week: No Schools

* Average daily absenteeism for all public schools during this reporting week.

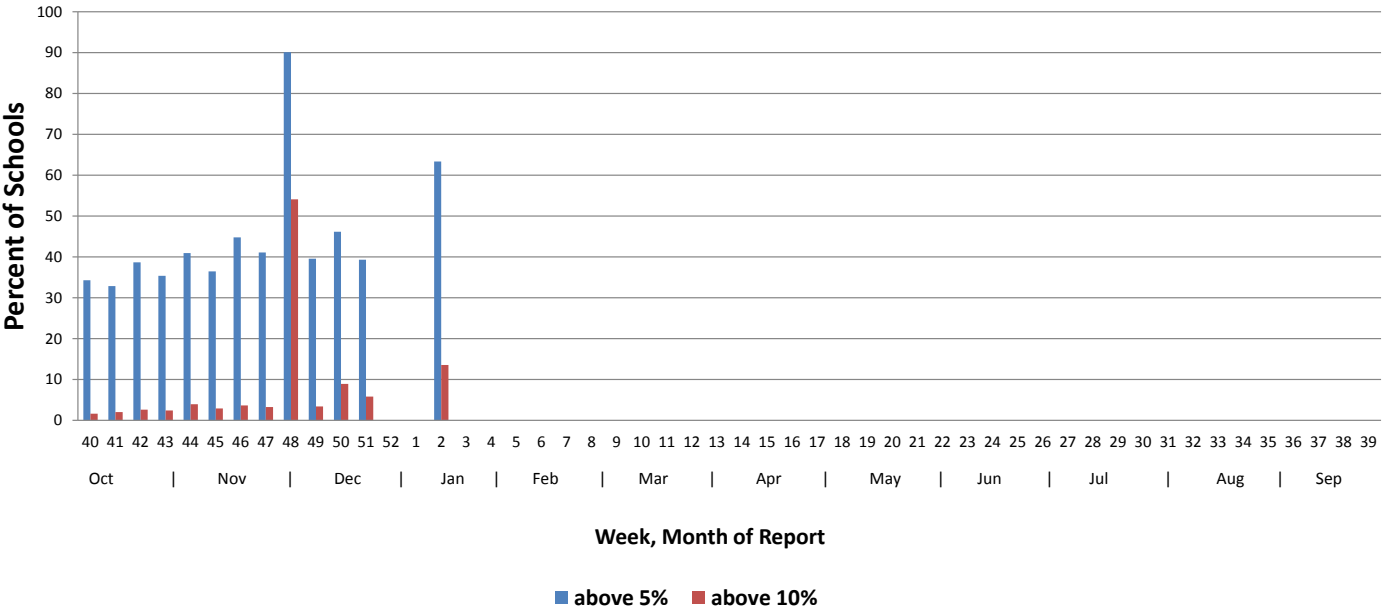
Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 2:



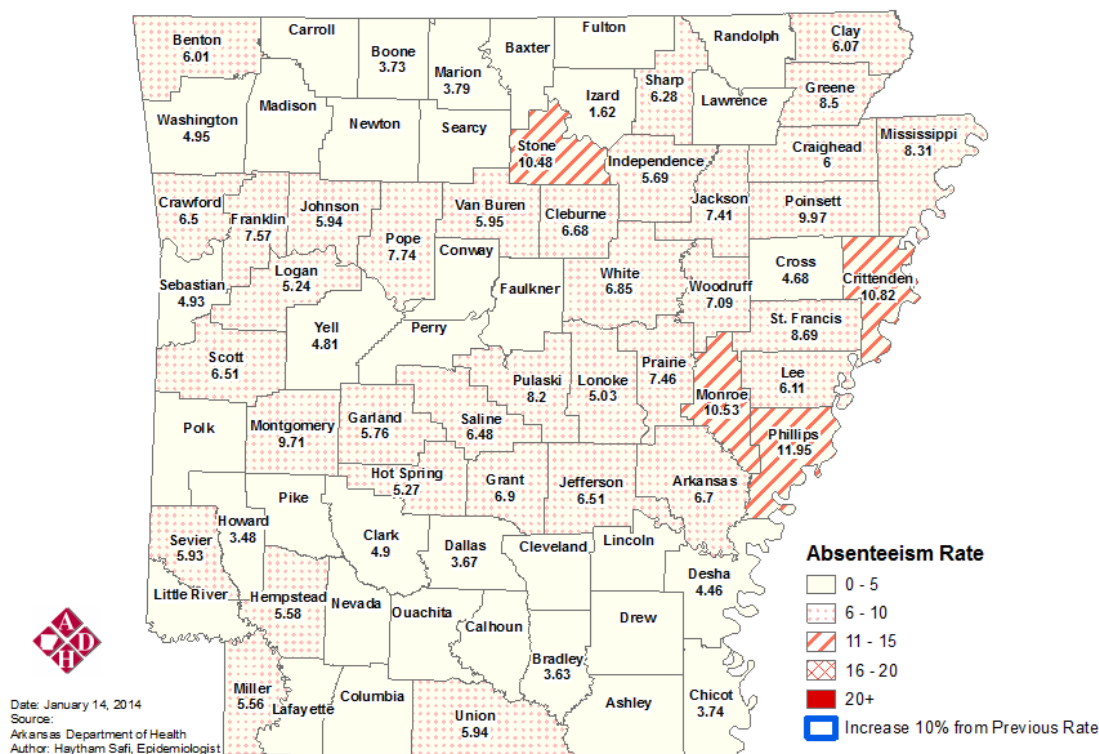
Weekly School Absenteeism Rates, Arkansas Public Schools



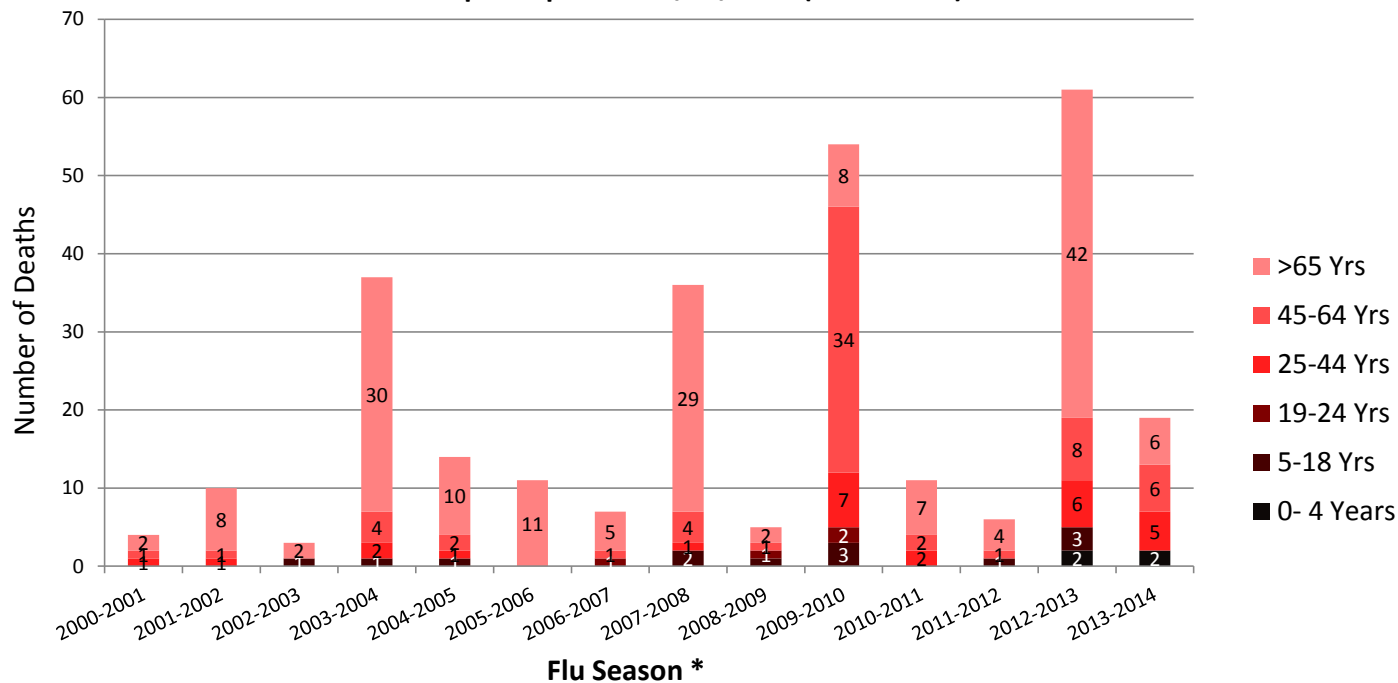
Percentage of Schools With Weekly Absenteeism Rates Above 5% and Above 10%



School Absenteeism Rate per County, Arkansas 2013-2014 Week Ending 1/11/2013

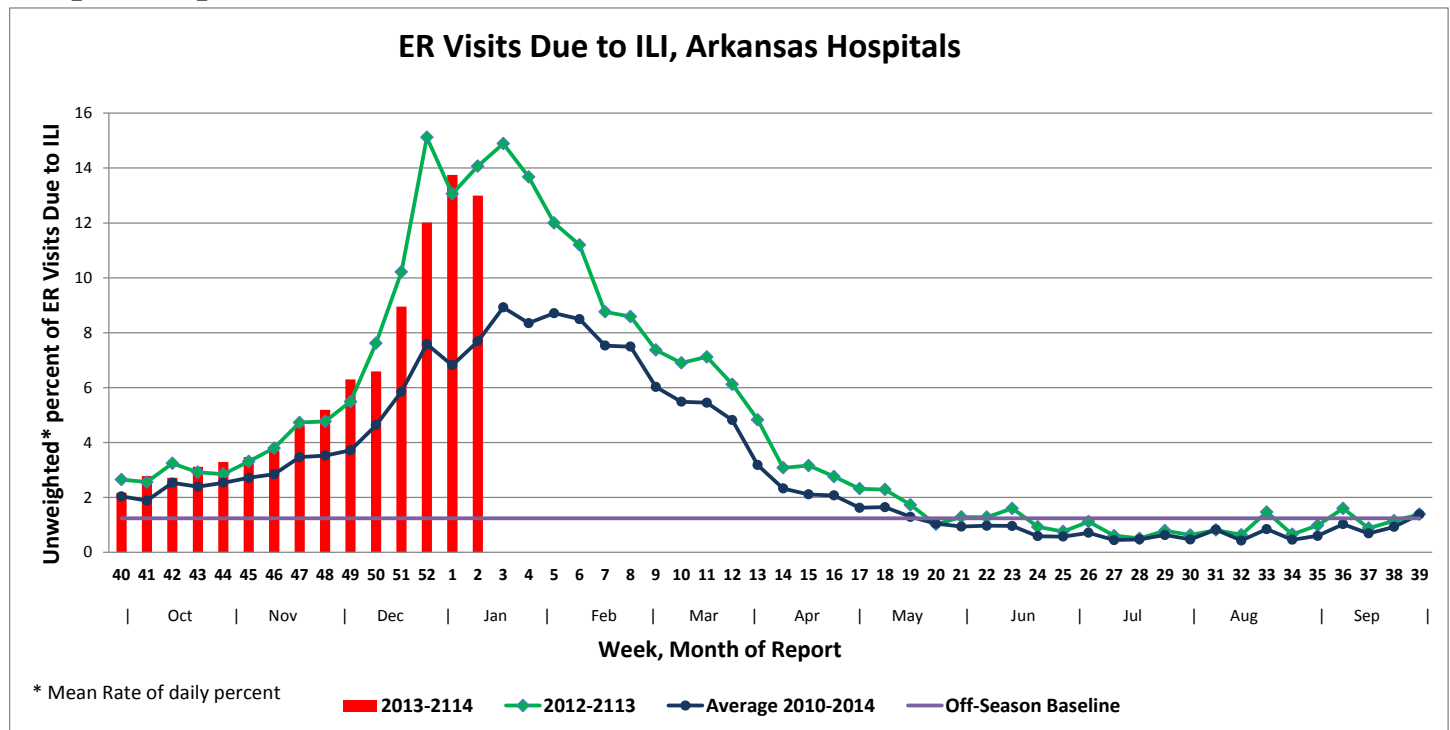


Influenza Mortality by Age Group, Arkansas 2000-2014 Report Updated: 1/14/2014 (Provisional)

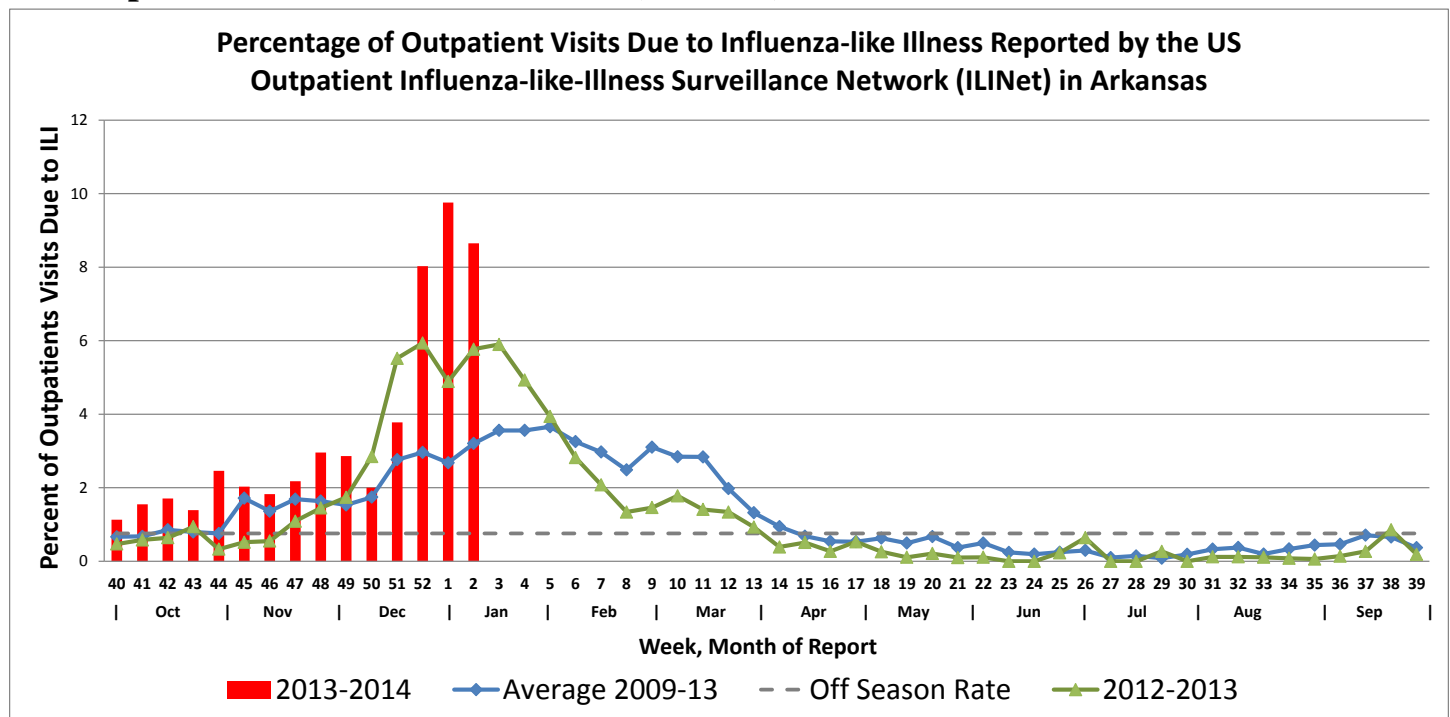


* All seasons range from week 40 to week 39 except 2009-2010 started week 36
Source: ADH Immunization section, center for health statistics

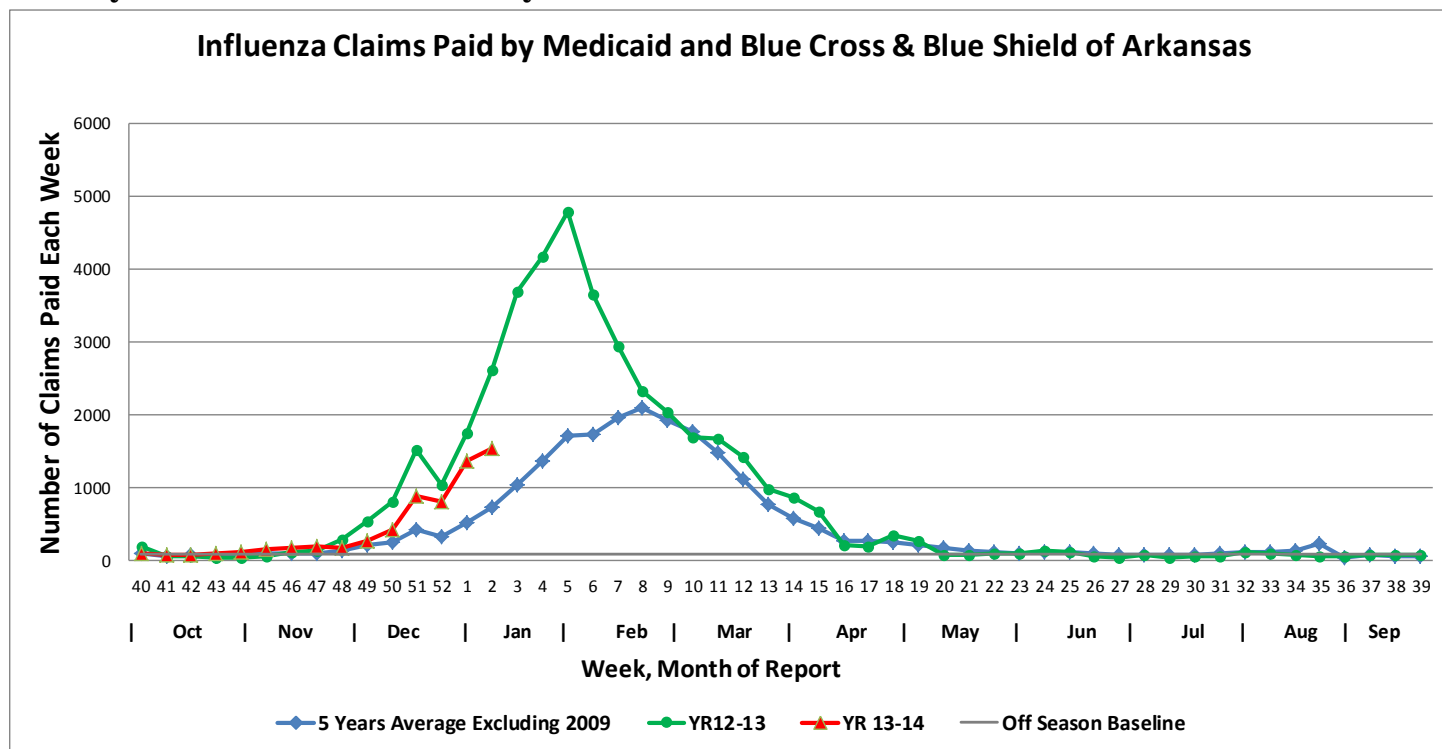
Hospital Report – ER Visits



US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)

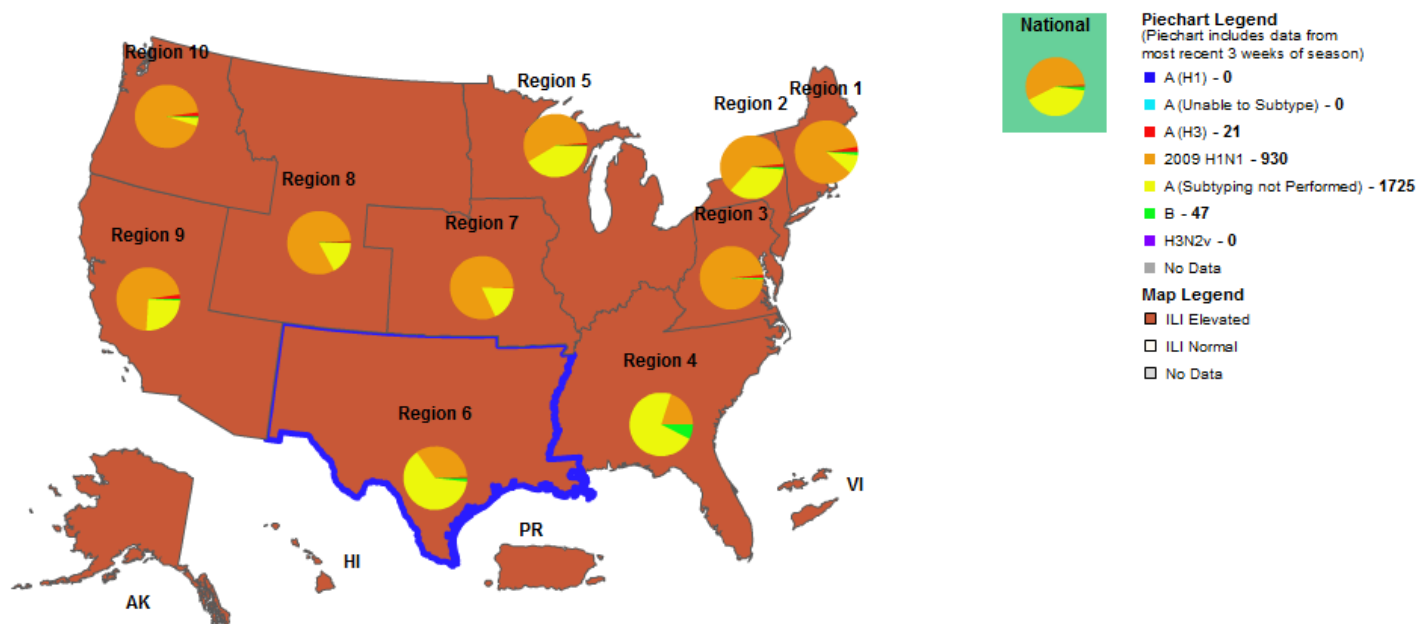


Weekly Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS:

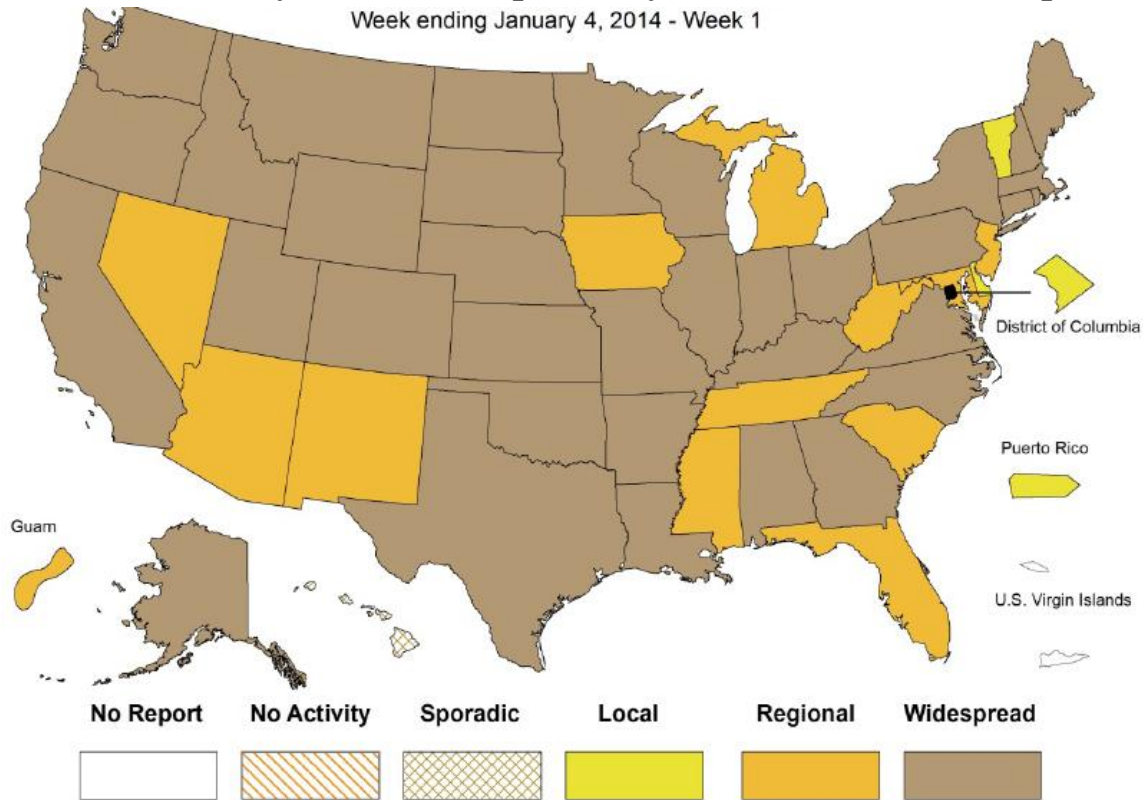


Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC and ILI Activity, by HHS Region, 2013-2014 Season, Week Ending Jan 03, 2014

Values in legend is for the week of the highlighted HHS region (Region 6)

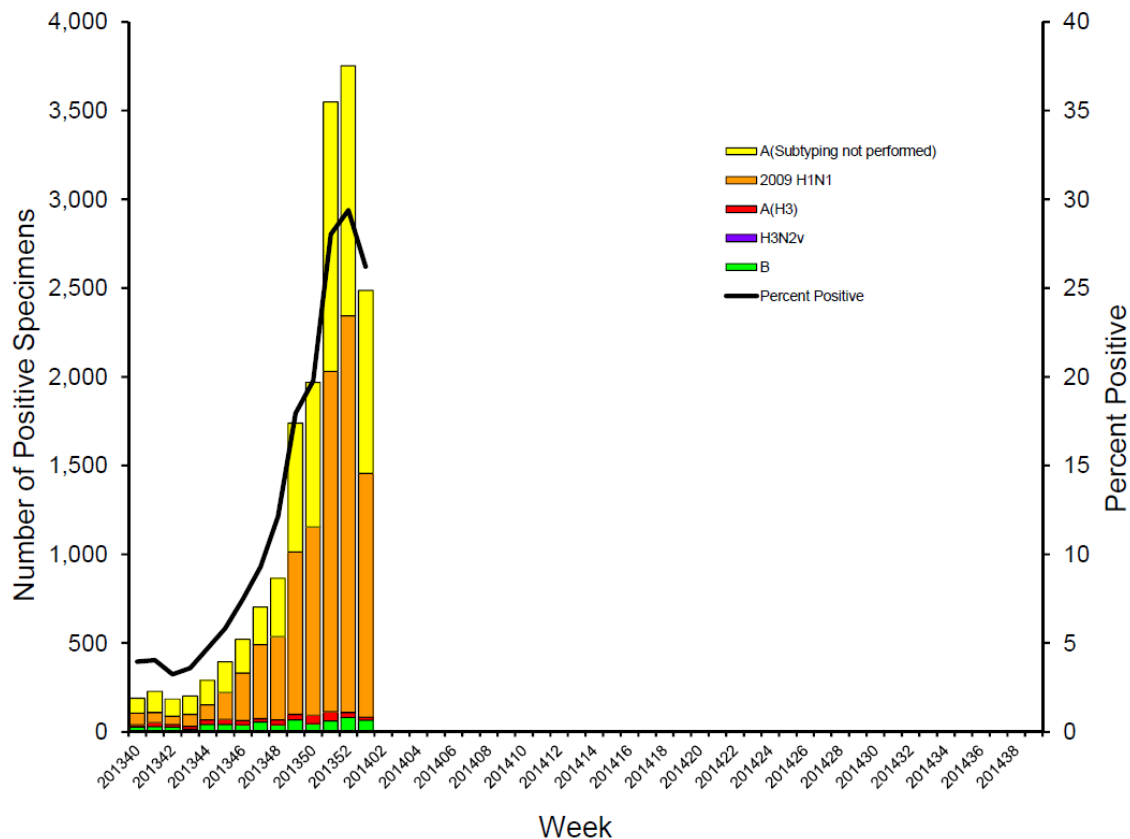


Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists

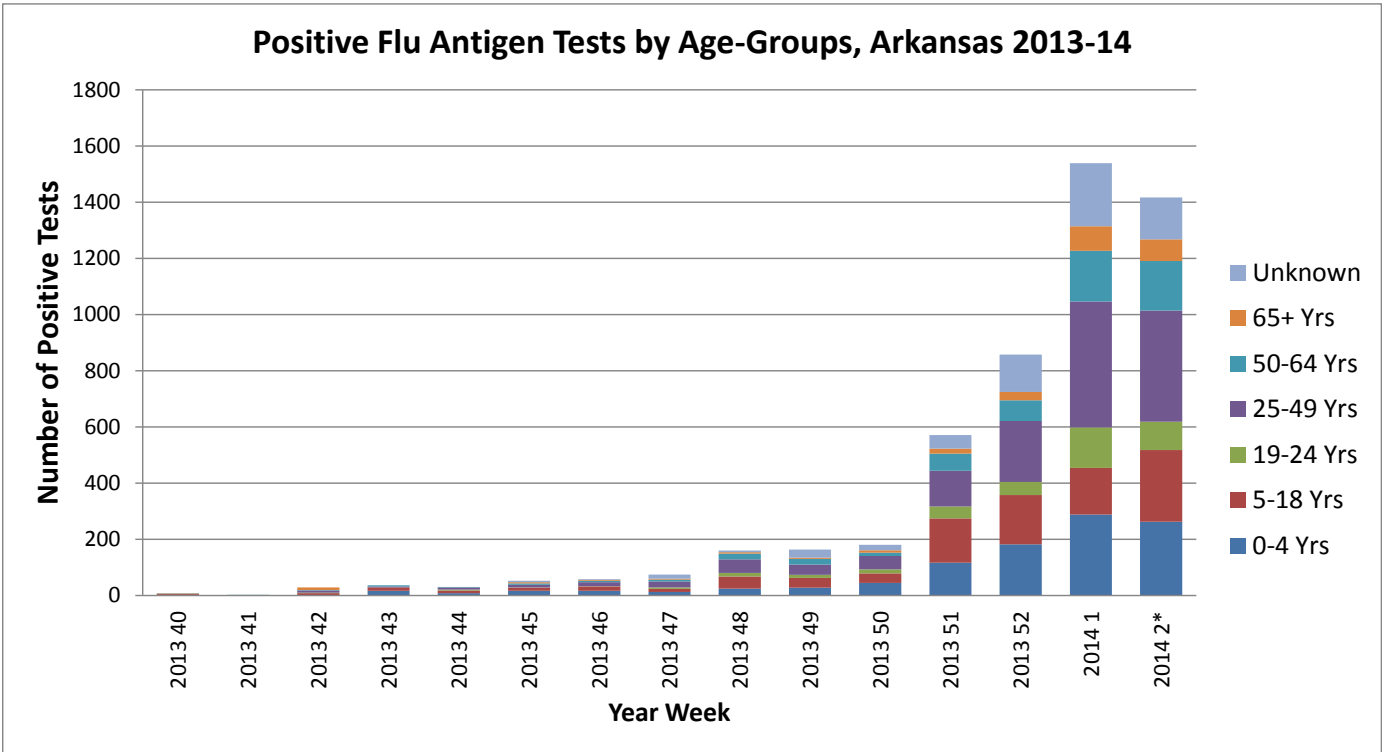
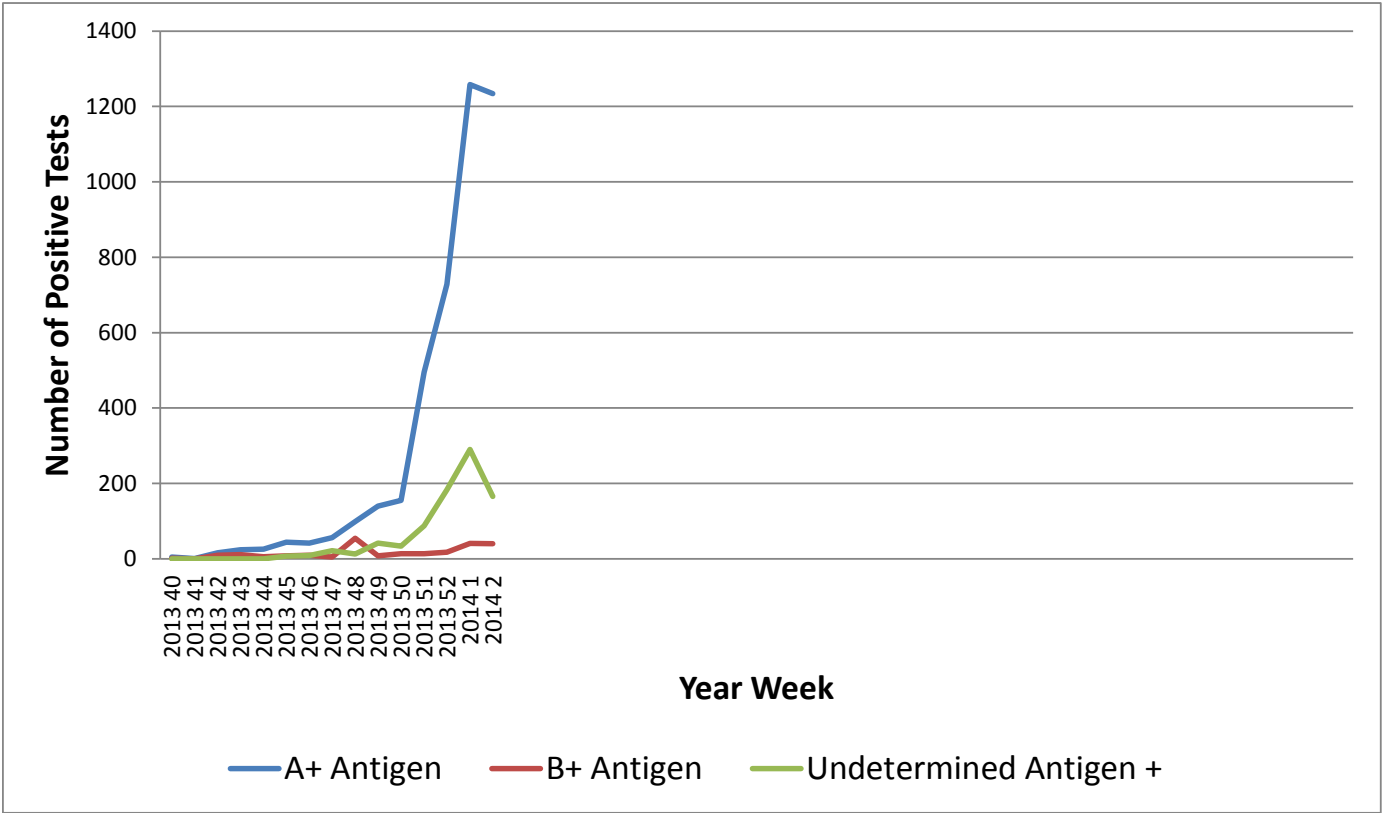


Arkansas Flu Activity Level Reported for Week: 02: Widespread

Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, 2013-14 Season

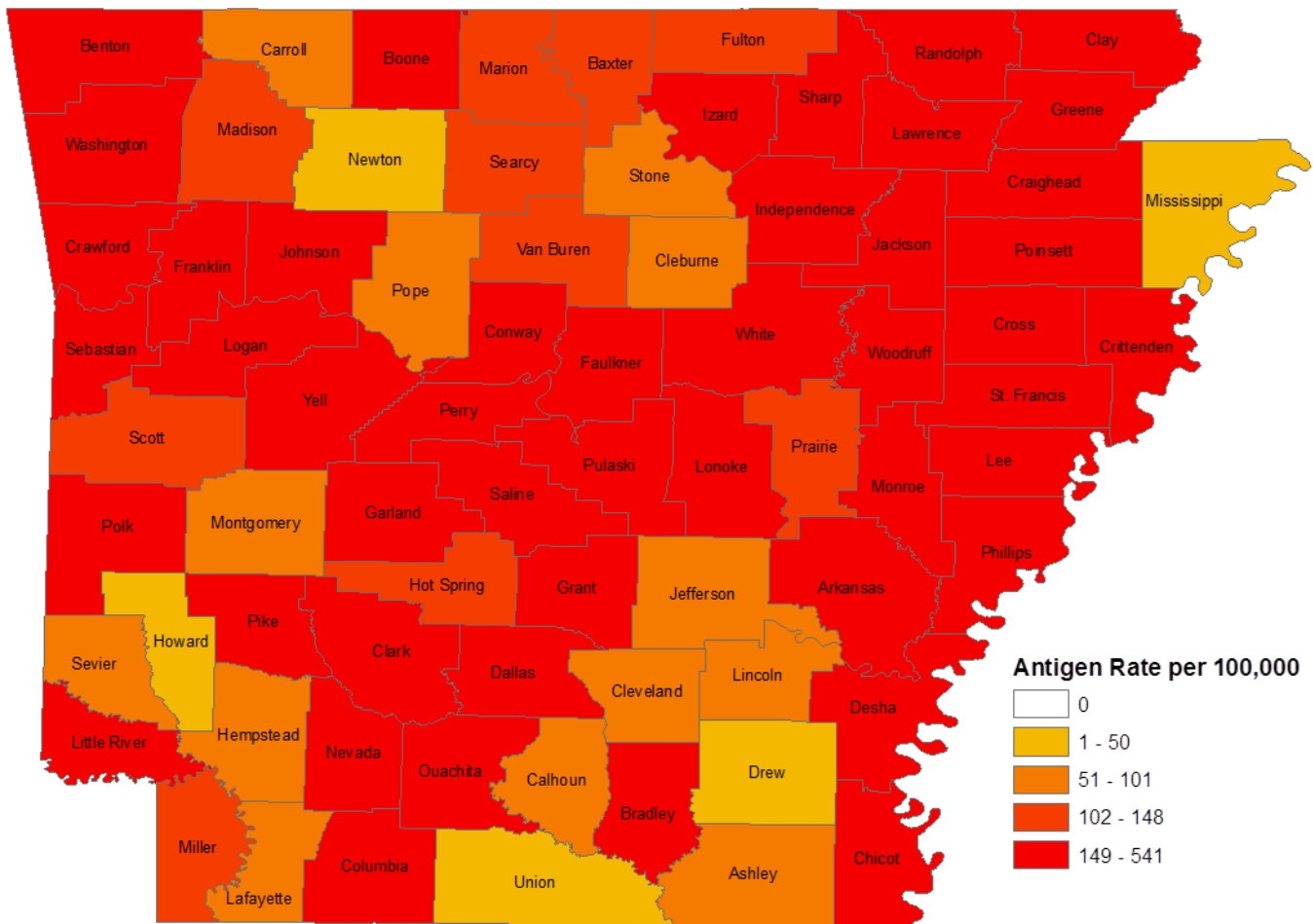


Antigen Report:



* Data entry of reported positive antigens is in progress.

Reported Positive Influenza Antigen Rates by County, Arkansas 2013-14



Author: Haytham Safi, Epidemiologist

Date: January 14, 2014
